



COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

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HISTORICAL COMMISSION

B R I E F

Effingham Manor
14325 Trotters Ridge Place

September 11, 2007
Regular Meeting

In Attendance

Chairman Duley, Commissioners R. Anderson, S. Anderson, Burgess, Culp, Cumins, Cunard, Hawkins, MacDonald, Olson, Smith, Stickley, Swavelly, Yankey

Justin Patton – County Archaeologist; Heather Hembrey - Public Works Liaison; Toni Brzyski - Commission Secretary

Jerry MacDonald, Art Anderson, Lauren Smerbeck, Dennis Vanderlaske – Citizens/Guests

7:32 PM

Citizens' Time

No citizens spoke.

August Meeting Brief and Resolutions – Not available. Will be included in the October agenda package.

Chairman's Time

Manassas Battlefield Viewsheds Project – Chairman Duley reported she will be participating in this study.

Cemeteries - Chairman Duley reported on continuing issues regarding cemetery preservation and the need to create new state-wide legislature to afford more protection for cemeteries.

Ms. Duley reported that the Cemetery Committee met twice and has been renamed the Legislative Committee with Jan Cunard as the Chairman.

RES 07-045

Amend the agenda for the September 11, 2007 meeting by inserting a new item #10. entitled "Legislative Committee" and renumbering the remaining items - APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Cunard, S. Anderson; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Turner]

Appreciation – Chairman Duley thanked Lauren Smerbeck and her husband for allowing the Commission to tour and meet at Effingham Manor.

**Vice Chairman's
Time**

Update on Disbursements – Vice Chairman Swavely reported the funds presented by the Commission to the Occoquan Mill House Museum for the Mill Race Exhibit appear to have been used as described in their request.

**Staff Time –
Planning**

Events – Justin Patton distributed flyers for the October 13, 2007, “Seminar on Historic Archaeology in Prince William County”

Manassas Battlefield Viewsheds Project – Mr. Patton explained this project is intended to identify historically significant military view sheds for mapping and preservation purposes. Additional information is available in the agenda package.

Cemeteries – Mr. Patton distributed maps to members by district who were not at the August meeting. These maps include information on cemeteries and are for planning and research use by Commissioners only. Mr. Patton asked the members to sign and return the attached form before leaving tonight. Commissioner Cunard requested a copy of the form for her records.

Meeting Locations – It was decided to hold the October and November meetings in the Development Services Building and the December meeting at the Old Prince William County Courthouse in Manassas.

**Staff Time –
Public Works**

Events – Heather Hembrey distributed flyers about upcoming programs and activities at several of the historic properties.

Rippon Lodge – Ms. Hembrey reported the house is 95% complete and the Grand Opening is scheduled for October 20, 2007.

Wayside Signs – Ms. Hembrey distributed a current list of wayside interpretive signs across the County.

Brentsville – Ms. Hembrey reported work on the cabin began today.

Lucasville School – Ms. Hembrey reported the permit for construction should be available soon and the school is expected to be open in February in celebration of Black History Month.

Old Business

Designated Cultural Resources – Toni Brzyski reported the Comprehensive Plan Amendment about Designated Cultural Resources is scheduled to be heard by the Planning Commission on September 19, 2007.

**Budget and
Audit Committee**

Budget Update – Copies of the Historical Commission’s FY-08 Budget – Month 2 thru August 31, 2007, were distributed and Commissioner Smith noted there is over \$8,000 in the use or lose category.

**Disbursements
Committee**

Requests Received – Commissioner Stickley reported he will be sending out a list of proposals to the Disbursements Committee.

**Publications
Committee**

No Meeting – The Publications Committee did not meet before tonight’s Commission meeting.

Thank you – Commissioner Burgess reported a thank you note was received from the Prince William Public Library System for their receipt of several books from the Commission.

Events - The Turn the Mill Around Campaign purchased copies of the Beverley Mill book for resale and will be holding a book signing on Saturday, October 6, 2007.

New Publications – Commissioner Smith reported he didn’t think the Marine Corps Base had received copies of the Commission’s current publications.

RES 07-046

Agree to provide copies of new publications along with a copy of “Yesterday’s Schools” to add to the collection at the Quantico Marine Corps Base - APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Smith, Burgess; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Turner]

**Legislative
Committee**

Update – Commissioner Cunard reported the Committee has discussed the importance of state-wide legislature to afford more protection for cemeteries and archaeological and architectural sites and the need for the County to have the authority to establish and enforce penalties to ensure these sites are protected.

RES 07-047

Request the Chairman of the Historical Commission write a letter to the Prince William Board of County Supervisors asking for an item in the 2008 Legislative Program for “Prince William County seeks additional authority to protect cemeteries and archaeological and architectural sites from negative impacts,” furthermore, the Historical Commission requests the Planning Office seek the assistance of the County Attorney and the Office of Executive Management in drafting the appropriate legislative proposals – APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Cunard, Swavely; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Turner]

Historic Properties

Wheeler's Grove – Chairman Duley reported it is unlikely this project will be reviewed by the Board before March 2008.

Land Development Application Reviews

Manassas Business Park – Commissioner Cumins expressed her view that the proffers as written in this current revision are not acceptable. Discussion followed.

RES 07-048

Agree to invite the developer of the Manassas Business Park, REZ #PLN2006-00498, to present their plan and answer questions at a meeting of the Historical Commission – APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Cunard, Cumins; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Turner]

RES 07-049

Phase I Archeological Study Recommendations – APPROVED – MOTION CARRIED [VOTING RECORD: Motion Smith, Cumins; Approved by acclamation; Absent from vote None; Absent from meeting Turner]

New Business

Historical Marker – Commissioner Smith reported the Second County Courthouse Marker on Aden Road is gone and needs to be replaced.

Announcements

Event – Commissioner Burgess will be giving tours at Thoroughfare Gap on September 29, 2007.

Adjournment

9:12 PM